SEVEN HOLY FOUNDERS OF THE SERVITE ORDER

ASSUMPTION CHURCH — CHICAGO

THE SEVEN HOLY FOUNDERS (1233)

This is the largest of the three pictures on the church ceiling. Seven Florentine noblemen, Bonfilius, Bonajuncta, Amideus, Hugh, Manettus, Sosteneus, Alexis canonized in 1888.

In 1233, August 15, the Blessed Virgin appeared to them, exhorting them to serve Her in monastic retirement of prayer. They first retired to Villa Camartia then to Monte Senario (near Florence). By the year 1285 the Order was so rapidly diffused that it numbered 10,000 members with houses all over Europe.

The Order was established in England in 1867 and in America in 1870.

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